

29 March 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Employment of Vietnam Era Veterans

1. Executive Order 11397 is concerned with Federal employment of Vietnam era veterans. It was signed by the President on 9 February 1968 (copy attached).

2. H.J. Res. 1052 is also concerned with employment for Vietnam era veterans. It was reported out of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee on 6 March 1968 and on 13 March was granted a rule for floor action.

3. Executive Order 11397 authorizes the noncompetitive appointment at GS 5 or lower for certain veterans who have had less than one year of college education. The thrust of H.J. Res. 1052 is to foster employment in the Government and by private enterprise (including Government contractors).

4. In the President's 30 January 1968 message on veterans' benefits, the following references were made to the impending Executive Order:

"Its major impact will reach the veteran who needs experience, skill and education. He will be hired on a priority basis to fill jobs open in the first five levels of the Civil Service, without having to compete in the regular examination--provided he agrees to pursue a part-time educational program under the GI bill.

"This plan will also help veterans with technical or professional skills who want to work in the middle and upper Civil Service levels. Their applications will be given immediate attention."

5. H.J. Res. 1052 is a sense of the Congress resolution which hopes to stimulate increased employment opportunities for Vietnam era veterans. There has been some question concerning the form that the resolution should take (concurrent and not requiring the signature of the President, or joint and requiring his signature). However, in its present form it does not impose any legal requirements with respect to Vietnam era veterans different from those that now obtain.


Office of Legislative Counsel

STATINTL

Attachment

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